

Radio Stamps

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Hello again, and welcome to *Radio Stamps*. A special welcome, as always, if you're listening to the program for the first time. You're tuned to the monthly show that's all about the fun of collecting postage stamps on the topic of radio. This program combines the fun of listening to international radio and collecting stamps from around the world all about radio. There are dozens of radio subjects you can collect on stamps, from international stations, like HCJB, to radio listening. Collecting stamps on the topic of radio is another great way to enjoy the radio hobby.

This is program number 41, and I have a collecting tip for you today from the country of San Marino. The Most Serene Republic of San Marino has a geographic area of about 24 square miles. It is located in north central Italy, near the Adriatic coast, and the country lies on the slopes of Mt. Titano. San Marino is completely surrounded by Italy. It lays claim to being the oldest state in Europe, founded in the 4th century. San Marino is also famous around the world for its postage stamps.

Since 1991, San Marino and Italy have issued a unique series of stamps to commemorate the centenary of radio. This joint set is dedicated to the scientists around the globe that have contributed to the invention of radio. The development of radio as we know it today is not just the result of one person's work. Radio was made possible by the research of my experimenters, inventors and scientists, dating back to the 1600s. There is a rich variety of the well known inventors on postage stamps that you can collect from countries around the world. These include Volta, Hertz and Marconi, for example. There are lesser known inventors too, but equally important, that are commemorated by postage stamps. Popov from Russia and Fessenden from Canada are good examples. In 1895 Popov transmitted and recorded the first message by radio in morse code. In 1900 Fessenden transmitted the first voice message in the world.

If you'd like to include inventors in your collection on the topic of radio, I think the joint set of stamps from San Marino and Italy would be a good place to start. Since 1991, both countries have issued a new stamp each year to honour a different inventor. The Italian series has included Galvani, Volta and Onesti, while San Marino has featured Maxwell, Hertz and Branly. This year, on March 11th, the Italian issue was for Augusto Righi while San Marino put the spotlight on Aleksandr Popov. Popov is famous for the invention of the Atmospheric Discharge Detector, which he presented to the Russian Society of Physics & Chemistry on May 7 in 1895. The first message by radio in morse code that he transmitted, over a distance of 250 metres, paid tribute to another great inventor. His two word message was Heinrich Hertz.

This distinctive five year series of radio stamps will conclude next year, in 1995, with both countries honouring the Italian inventor Marconi. Each of the ten stamps in the series, five from Italy and five from San Marino, has a denomination of 750 lira. Attractive postal cancellations

featuring the inventors have also been used on the first day of issue for these stamps. If you'd like more information about this unique set of radio inventors on stamps, including ordering details, here's where to write to in San Marino. Address your letter to Azienda Autonoma di Stato Filatelica e Numismatica. The first word is spelled capital A-Z-I-E-N-D-A. Autonoma is spelled capital A-U-T-O-N-O-M-A. Di Stato is small D-I and capital S-T-A-T-O. Filatelica e Numismatica is spelled capital F-I-L-A-T-E-L-I-C-A, then small E, then capital N-U-M-I-S-M-A-T-I-C-A. The mailing address is P.O. Box 1, 47031, Republic of San Marino.

If you have a collecting tip that you'd like to share with listeners around the world, please drop me a line. Your news, comments and suggestions are always welcome. Well, that's all for today's program. I hope to hear from you soon. Here's my mailing address. Neil Carleton, that's spelled N-e-i-l C-a-r-l-e-t-o-n, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, spelled A-l-m-o-n-t-e, Ontario, spelled O-n-t-a-r-i-o. The postal code here in Canada is K0A 1A0. The address again is Neil Carleton, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0, Canada.

Until the next time, best wishes for good listening and collecting.